

CLAIMS

We Claim,

1. A method for selling having the steps of;
signing in through an entry portal,
selecting items for viewing, and
dynamically displaying selected items.
2. The method of claim 1 for selling having the further step of:
remotely directing viewing of an item to be purchased.
3. The method of claim 2 having the further step of connecting a shopper portal to a
sales assistant's portal to provide a flow of information between said portals.
4. The method for selling of claim 1 having the further steps of:
selecting more then one item for purchase from different vendors in a single shopping
session.
5. The method for selling of claim 4 having the further step of:
assembling items in one electronic shopping cart.
6. The method of claim 3 for selling having the further step of:
processing purchase orders.
7. The method of claim 3 for selling having the further step of:
order fulfillment.
8. The method of claim 7 for selling having the further step of:
rewarding buyers for purchases.
9. The method of claim 8 for selling having the further step of:
aggregating awards from different vendors into a combined award.

10. A method for assisting shoppers having the steps of;
connecting shoppers electronically with a sales assistant,
enabling a live query and response session between a shopper and said sales assistant,
and
displaying items selected by said sales assistant.
11. The method for assisting shoppers of claim 10 having the further step of:
determining shopping criteria.
12. The method for assisting shoppers of claim 11 having the further step of:
creating a shopper profile.
13. The method for assisting shoppers of claim 12 having the further step of:
selecting items for display based on a shoppers' profile.
14. The method for assisting shoppers having the steps of;
displaying merchandise,
creating images of said merchandise,
remotely viewing said images, and
remotely controlling viewing said merchandise.
15. A method for creating assisting shoppers having the steps of;
remotely displaying merchandise in a retail setting,
interrogating an information source on the characteristics of the displayed merchandise,
selecting the merchandise, and
purchasing the merchandise.
16. A method for assisting shoppers through portals to a communication network
having the steps of;

querying a shopper to determine shopping objectives,
searching databases for merchandise matches in response to said query,
displaying selected merchandise,
remotely viewing said merchandise, and
dynamically altering the views of said merchandise.

17. The method of claim 16 having the further step of querying the shopper through a portal connected to a telecommunications network.

18. The method of claim 16 having the further step of connecting a shopper portal to a shopper's assistant portal to provide communication between said portals.

19. The method of claim 18 having the further step of querying a shopper to determine the shopper mission by defining description of merchandise sought.

20. The method of claim 16 having the further steps of;
querying a shopper to determine merchandise preferences,
querying a shopper to determine demographic data,
collecting data on purchases, and
creating a profile on said shopper.

21. The method of claim 16 having the further step of;
creating a virtual shopping cart to assemble merchandise selections.

22. The method of claim 16 having the further step of providing a purchase gateway to allow shoppers to arrange payment for merchandise.

23. The method of claim 22 having the further step of providing delivery options to a shopper.

24. The method of claim 18 having the further step of creating an interactive session between said shopper's portal and said sales assistant's terminal to exchange information on merchandise.

23. The method of claim 16 having the further step of setting criteria for the selection of the merchandise.

24. A method of assisting shopper having the steps of;
connecting a shopper to a communications network through a communications portal,
interrogating shopper for information on merchandise to be purchased,
connecting a shopper through said communications network to a sale assistant gateway,
and
sharing information on selected merchandise between said shopper and sales assistant through said communications network.

25. The method of claim 24 having the further steps of providing said sales assistant with historical data on said shopper.

26. A method for presenting information to a shopper to assist in purchasing decision having the steps of;

Originating a communications session in a network,
connecting a shopper through a communications network to a sales assistant,
collecting information from said shopper on objects for the session, and
displaying suitable merchandise based upon the shopper's objectives.

27. The method of claim 26 having the further step of presenting information on sales and rewards to a shopper during the communication session.

28. The method of claim 26 having the further step calculating the value of merchandise selections including discounts, rebates, sales, promotions and rewards.
29. The method of claim 26 having the further step of providing shoppers access to merchants catalogs.
30. The method of claim 26 having the further step of interrogating merchant's inventory to determine availability of merchandise.
31. The method of claim 26 having the further ability to dynamically price goods based upon inventory levels.
32. The method of claim 31 having the further step of a shopper purchasing said merchandise by making selections over said communication network.
33. The method of claim 26 having the further step of; conferencing in one or more shoppers.
34. The method of claim 33 having the further step of a video chat session.
35. The method of claim 32 having the further step of collecting data on shopper's purchases and analyzing said data for marketing.
36. The method of claim 35 having the further step of preparing shopper profiles based on said data.
37. The method of claim 35 having the further step of preparing marketing reports based on said data.
38. The method of claim 26 having the further step of notifying said shopper of bargains and sales.
39. The method of claim 32 of notifying the shopper of delivery options of selected merchandise.

41. The method of claim 32 having the further step of notifying the shopper of delivery modes and dates.
42. A method for displaying merchandise in a space for access by remote cameras having the steps of;
- creating display areas,
- disposing video cameras in said display areas to scan said displays,
- connecting one or more shoppers to said cameras through communications networks for viewing, and
- remotely manipulating said cameras to allow shoppers to view merchandise within said display area.
43. The method of claim 43 having the further step of shoppers accessing said cameras through communications portals on site.
44. The method of claim 42 having the further step of connecting a sales assistant to said shopper through said communication network.
45. The method of claim 44 having the further step of the sales assistant manipulating said cameras.
46. The method of claim 42 having the further step of issuing tokens to shoppers to make purchase during the shopping session.
47. The method of claim 42 having the further step of a shopper making a purchase.
48. The method of claim 47 of having assembling purchases from inventory and delivering to shopper.
50. A method for steaming advertising to a shopper having the steps;
- creating an interactive communication network between a shopper and merchants,
- gathering shopper profiles,

selecting advertising based on said shopper profiles,
obtaining shopper's permission to stream messages to him, and
presenting information based on said profiles to said shopper through said network.

51. The method of claim 50 having the further step of offering inducements to obtain a shopper's consent to receive said information.

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